A Finding Aid to the
Jakob J. Petuchowki Papers

Manuscript Collection No. 653
**Collection Summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Jakob J. Petuchowski Papers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>1942-1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection Number</td>
<td>MS-653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repository</td>
<td>The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creator</td>
<td>Petuchowski, Jakob Josef, 1925-1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent</td>
<td>2 linear feet (5 Hollinger boxes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language of the Material</td>
<td>English, German, and Hebrew</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Administrative Information**

**Biographical Sketch**

Jakob Josef Petuchowski was born on July 30, 1925 in Berlin, Germany. He was brought from Germany to London in a children's transport prior to the outbreak of World War II. After receiving a B.A. with honors in psychology from the University of London in 1947, Petuchowski moved to the United States in 1948 and earned his rabbinic ordination, masters and Ph.D. from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Petuchowski served in the congregational rabbinate in Welch, West Virginia, and Washington, Pennsylvania. He was also the High Holiday rabbi of Temple B'ni Israel, Laredo, Texas from 1956 through 1991.

As a Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion faculty member, Jakob Petuchowski held many different titles. Hired as a professor of rabbinics in 1956, he became the first Director of Jewish Studies at HUC-JIR's Jerusalem campus. Petuchowski then became a professor of Theology and Liturgy, a title he held until 1981. Finally, he was the professor of Judeo-Christian studies.


Petuchowski married Dr. Elizabeth Mayer in 1946 in London. They had three children: Samuel Judah, Aaron Mark (who also became a rabbi) and Jonathan Mayer.


**Scope and Content**

Collection consists of articles, correspondence, nearprint, sermons and manuscripts relating to Petuchowski's theological interests. This collection also contains material relating to Petuchowski's career as a faculty member at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

**Arrangement**

Arranged into four (4) series: A. Correspondence; B. Writings; C. Nearprint; D. Audiovisual Recordings.

**Terms of Access**

The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

**Preferred Citation**

Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Jakob J. Petuchowski Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-653. Jakob J. Petuchowski Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Provenance**

Received from Jakob Petuchowski, Cincinnati, Ohio, 1980 and 1991.

**Processing Information**


**Index Terms**

**Subjects** Theologians

**Personal Names** Petuchowski, Jakob Josef, 1925-

**Corporate Names** Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion
Series A. Correspondence, 1955-1982

Extent 1 linear foot (2.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Each correspondent having more than five items has been placed in a separate folder. Much of the correspondence relates to Petuchowski’s publishing career and his research on Jewish prayerbooks. Correspondence is in both English and Hebrew.

Arrangement The series is arranged alphabetically by name.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. A-F, General.
Box 1. Folder 2. Agus, Jacob B.
Box 1. Folder 3. Altman, Alexander.
Box 1. Folder 4. Baek, Leo.
Box 1. Folder 5. Baerwald, Leo.
Box 1. Folder 6. Bardin, Shlomo.
Box 1. Folder 7. Berlin, Donald O.
Box 1. Folder 8. Blank, Sheldon H.
Box 1. Folder 9. Braude, William G.
Box 1. Folder 10. Brichto, Herbert C.
Box 1. Folder 12. Cambridge University Press.
Box 1. Folder 14. Cohen, Gerson D.
Box 1. Folder 17. Eckert, W.P.
Box 1. Folder 18. Ehrlich, Kenneth E.
Box 1. Folder 19. Frankel, Max.
Box 1. Folder 20. Freehof, Solomon B.
Box 1. Folder 22. Fromm, Eric.
Box 1. Folder 25. Gottschalk, Alfred.
Box 1. Folder 26. Gradison, Bill.
Box 1. Folder 27. Guttmann, Alexander.
Box 1. Folder 28. Hain, Kenneth.
Box 1. Folder 29. Herder-Dorneich, T.
Box 1. Folder 30. Herscher, Uri.
Box 1. Folder 31. Heschel, Abraham J.
Box 1. Folder 32. Hurwitz, Henry.
Box 1. Folder 33. Jacobs, Louis.
Box 1. Folder 34. Jakobovitz, Immanuel.
Box 2. Folder 2. Klein, Joseph.
Box 2. Folder 4. Leuner, H.D.
Box 2. Folder 5. Levey, Samson.
Box 2. Folder 7. Marcus, Jacob Rader.
Box 2. Folder 8. Maurer, Tom B.
Box 2. Folder 9. McCoy, Lowell G.
Box 2. Folder 10. Merkel, Gottfried G.
Box 2. Folder 11. Mihaly, Eugene.
Box 2. Folder 12. Montefiore, Leonard G.
Box 2. Folder 15. Oesterreicher, John M.
Box 2. Folder 16. Plaut, W. Gunther.
Box 2. Folder 17. Rackman, Emmanuel.
Box 2. Folder 18. Rayner, John D.
Box 2. Folder 19. Regner, Sidney L.
Box 2. Folder 22. Schaalman, Herman E.
Box 2. Folder 23. Schneerson, Menachem M.
Box 2. Folder 26. Van der Zyl, W.
Box 3. Folder 2. Wagner, Richard.
Box 3. Folder 3. Walter, Rudolf.
Box 3. Folder 5. Wiesel, Elie.
Box 3. Folder 7. Unidentified correspondence.
Series B. Writings, 1942-1986

Extent 0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of sermons and publications. Some manuscripts are in German. Correspondence relating to the publications may also be included in the series.

Arrangement The series is arranged alphabetically by title.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 3. Folder 8. Addresses, meditations, sermons, 1967-1979
Box 3. Folder 9. Beten in Judentum [German], undated
Box 3. Folder 11. Das Buch im Volk des Buches [German], 1982
Box 3. Folder 13. Es Lehrten Unsere Meister [German], 1979
Box 3. Folder 14. Es Lehrten Unsere Meister - Part II [German], 1980
Box 3. Folder 15. John F. Kennedy Memorial, 1963
Box 4. Folder 1. Manuscripts, 1965-1978
Box 4. Folder 2. Our Masters Taught, 1981
Box 4. Folder 3. The Lord's Prayer and Jewish Liturgy, 1978
Box 4. Folder 4. The Lord's Prayer and Jewish Liturgy - Part II, 1978
Box 4. Folder 5. Theology and Poetry, 1975
Box 5. Folder 1. Wie unsere Meister di Schrift Erklären [German], 1982

Series C. Nearprint, 1951-1979

Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Includes several honorary degrees and articles/clippings relating to various subjects such as education or tours. The series also contains material from two congregations: Temple Emanuel of Welch, W. Va. and Temple Beth Israel of Washington, D.C.

Arrangement The series is arranged alphabetically by topic.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 5. Folder 2. Brown University honorary doctorate, 1979
Box 5. Folder 3. Curriculum vitae, undated
Box 5. Folder 4. Education, 1942-1955
Box 5. Folder 5. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, 1956-1977
Box 5. Folder 6. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Jerusalem campus, 1963-1964
Box 5. Folder 7. Honors, 1977
Box 5. Folder 8. Laredo, Texas, 1956-1964
Box 5. Folder 9. Learned societies, undated
Box 5. Folder 10. Lectures, tours, 1978, undated
Box 5. Folder 11. Maimonides College honorary degree, 1959
Box 5. Folder 12. Personal material, undated
Box 5. Folder 13. Travel records, undated
Box 5. Folder 14. University of Cologne Honorary doctorate, 1978
Box 5. Folder 15. Temple Beth Israel (Washington, D.C.), 1955

**Series D. Audiovisual Recordings, 1961-1980**

**Scope and Content Note** Lectures are identified by title (if available) and information about the event. Many of the events occurred at HUC-JIR, Cincinnati. These recordings were donated individually by either Jakob Petuchowski or the College-Institute between 1962-1990.

**Arrangement** The recordings are arranged chronologically.

**Box and Folder Listing**

- Item TR-105 to TR-105a. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Incoming student welcome, 1961 September
- Item TR-231. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Chapel - Its Uses, Present and Future, 1964 September
- Item TR-272 to TR-273. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Reactions to proposed curriculum. Interview, 1965 January
- Item TR-769. Message of Israel radio speech, 1969 January
- Item TR-1073. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Symposium on Halakhah, 1974 December
- Item TR-1172 to TR-1174. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Symposium Whither Liberal Religion?, 1975 October
- Item TR-1124 to TR-1126. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Faculty centennial academic lecture, 1974 October–November
- Item TR-1141. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Symposium on prayer, 1976 April
- Item C-66 to C-69. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Colloquia on Passover and the Haggadah, 1979 March
- Item C-348. Interview, 1980 October
- Item C-447 to C-448. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion speech to students, undated
- Item C-1522 to C-1528. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. An Episcopal-Jewish Colloquium, undated